

Dear Parishioners of Divine Savior and our cherished visitors:

Sirach 27:30 – 28:7; Psalm 103:1-4, 9-12; Romans 14:7-9; Matthew 18:21-35

It is important for us to realize how Jesus would end a parable. In today's Gospel, Jesus would have concluded with the words, "I forgave you your entire debt because you begged me to. Should you not have had pity on your fellow servant, as I had pity on you?" Jesus used parables to awaken peoples' imagination and to get them to ponder something serious about how faithfully they were living the ancient commands of love of God and love of neighbor. While the answer to the closing question of today's parable should be an easy one for us to answer, it still calls us to ask ourselves if there have been times when we were not as merciful to others as we could have been.

In other words, Jesus would not have said the closing lines of our Gospel passage: "then in anger his master handed him over to the torturers until he should pay back the whole debt. So will my heavenly Father do to you, unless each of you forgives your brother from your heart." The main reason why Jesus would not have said those two sentences is because they are both very violent in nature. Despite how people interpret certain passages from the Old Testament, we need to learn about the context of what seems to be violent behavior on God's part. Most, if not all the time, it is not too difficult to realize that God is being blamed for something God had nothing to do with. Most often it was the people who did not take responsibility for their failure to live up to the loving relationship God so fondly desired with the people.

Again, for some, that final sentence can easily lead people into saying God was letting the people know how displeased He was with the people, and therefore brought destruction upon them. What we benefit from is to realize that we are intricately connected to each other and to the entirety of all creation. If we are not living the kind of moral lives, we know we ought to, we can hardly expect that life will continue to bless us limitlessly. We hopefully can observe that today with many of the unfortunate things that are going on in our country and world. For instance, when we fail to exercise our responsibility regarding COVID-19, we have only ourselves to blame for its continual disruption of our lives.

We return to the last two sentences of our Gospel. We notice the word "anger". Some people think that being angry with others, especially children, is part of loving one another. Given this line of thinking, some insist that If God got angry, it would be a sign of how much God cared. But anger and love are fully distinct from each other. We get angry because someone is not acting in loving ways. We display our love by not acting in anger toward whomever aroused our anger.

Lastly, we need to be aware that some statements in the Bible make no sense. To torture someone until that person pays back the entirety of his/her debt is crazy. It is equally crazy to think God will torture us if we fail to forgive one another. Acting that way would be the essence of wholesale violence. We pray we will imitate God and find ways to love, even when forgiveness is hard to come by.

~Fr. Roman

PLEASE NOTE:

Due to hazardous air quality, we will **NOT** celebrate outside Mass at 7:30am this Sunday, September 13th or offer drive up Communion after the 9am live stream Mass.

We will continue to livestream the 4:30 pm Saturday evening Mass and the 9am Sunday Mass.

This weekend there will be a second collection for the Diocesan Priests Retirement. This is our opportunity to take care of the faithful and dedicated priests who have spent their lives caring for our spiritual and sacramental needs within our Diocese. Thank you for your support of our parish priests.

Second Collection



Thank you to all who have been

donating to the parish online! Our online donations have increased significantly since March. If you have switched to donating online and still receive donation envelopes, contact kathleen@divinesavior.com to cancel your envelopes. If you want to begin **donating online**, please go to the parish website under [GIVING](#). To set up **text giving**, enter our 10 digit number **1-844-905-1795** in the "to" line and the amount you wish to donate in the "message" line, then press send. You will receive a registration link. It is fast and easy!

To see the **parish financial update** and **2020-2021 fiscal year budget**, [click here](#).

Thank you to all for the continued generosity during these challenging times!

Please pray for those who are sick, in pain or recovery, or in need of spiritual healing.

Sheldon Anderson Jr.	Talon Bonanno
Julie Bouse	Eduardo Bravo
Pat Collier	Noreen Davis
Michael W. Donner	Carol Dziedzic
Reggie Faulk	Dorothy Feldman
Bud Green	Rosa Gutierrez
Debbie Harrington	Sandra Harris
Delores Henkel	John Herzog
Melody Hill	Kay Hoffer
Bridgette Hubbard	Doug Jackson
Martin Jennings	Carl Larson
Vicente Meno	Nick Merlo
Sybil Miller	Mauri Murillo
Allen D. Nelson	Glen Newton
John Newton	Shirley Newton
Patty Nicholson	Sue O'Brien
Jacque Olson	John Padden
Karen Paddock	Linda Parker
Gladys Reilly	Christopher Revak
Roxanne Rosales	Madeline Rose
Gerry Ryden	Donna Schulte
Tom Sekel	Shari Sigl
Isrrael Lopez Silva	Daya Vati Singh
Craig Smith	Stella Zipp

Please pray for the souls of those who have died:

Bob Collier	Rosemary Dubé
Dan Freeman	Dorothy Wong

—For these and all the faithful departed,

SENIOR RESOURCES

Virtual Seminars for Senior Citizens and those who care for elderly parents!

See the pastoral page on our website for amazing seminars in September offered by Senior Care Solutions in conjunction with Del Oro Caregivers Resource Center and the Alzheimer's Association. [Click here](#)



Beloved parishioner Bob Collier has gone to rest in the arms of our Divine Savior. Bob has been a cornerstone of Divine Savior since its earliest days and his presence here will be missed by all. Our prayers and support surround his beloved wife Pat, their sons Brian, Kevin and Richard (Judi), and grandchildren, Natalie, Emilee and Kylee. Bob's funeral Mass will be livestreamed on **Monday September 21st at 9am**, in place of the regularly scheduled daily Mass.

A funeral Mass for cherished parishioner Vince McMahon will be livestreamed on **Friday September 18th at 9am** in place of our regularly scheduled daily Mass. We are grateful for the love and support that Vince and his wife Linda have given Divine Savior through the years. May our prayers and support now surround Linda and their son Matt.

WILDFIRES IN OUR DIOCESE

In light of the fires burning in counties throughout the Diocese, Bishop Jaime Soto has asked the faithful of the Diocese of Sacramento to pray for all those affected, especially the residents who have been displaced, lost their residences or evacuated. Ask for God's protection upon the firefighters and emergency personnel. Pray for those who have died and all those suffering loss during this catastrophic time. We also pray for the brave men and women who are responding to these disasters, battling the fires and helping people to safety.

Catholic Charities of Yolo, Solano, Northern Valley Catholic Social Service (NVCSS) and the St. Vincent de Paul Society work together with local community partners to help those in need. Parishioners may donate money in the following ways:

Donate by mail: Send checks to Diocese of Sacramento Fire Assistance Fund, 2110 Broadway, Sacramento, CA 95818. Donate by phone: The Catholic Foundation (916) 733-0266 - Donate online: [Fire Assistance Fund 2020](#)

Need Prayer?

This is a time filled with many challenges. If you are in need of prayer or pastoral care, our website has many offerings that may offer hope and help.



From eviction protection information and care for senior citizens, to parent resources and locations for food, please click [Pastoral Care](#)

In addition, the [Prayer Tree](#) page offers a place to request prayers and lists all those recently deceased so we can pray for them.

We are united in love #DivineSaviorStrong!

FAITH FORMATION

ENROLL NOW Children & Youth

Faith formation for children, middle and high schoolers will kick off on **Sunday, September 27th**. [Enroll now!](#)

For more information about children's ministry, including sacrament preparation, please contact Jen Shaver at jennifer@divinesavior.com,

For information about middle school ministry contact Brian Collier at brian@divinesavior.com

For information about Confirmation for 8th - 12th grade, please contact Debbie Sultan at lifeteen@divinesavior.com

For children ages 7 - 17 who have not been baptized or teens who have not made their First Communion, contact Jen Shaver at jennifer@divinesavior.com

growing in faith together

FAITH FORMATION con't.

Deepening Our Christian Faith - a small faith group study with

Fr. Marcel

Sundays at 2pm, all are welcome to join Fr. Marcel's book study on [Prayer of Fire, Experiencing the Lord's Prayer](#). Email frmarcel@divinesavior.com for information.

Going Deeper with Fr. Roman

Be sure to watch this weeks edition of "Going Deeper" with Fr. Roman:



[Reflecting God's Mercy on Each Other](#)

SMALL FAITH GROUPS

Fall is upon us and we need your ideas for small faith groups! Check out the [Adult Faith life page](#) on the parish website to find out how to form a small faith group or join one already happening!



Catholics Returning Home An Open Door for Returning Catholics

Were you raised Catholic but are seldom coming to church anymore? Would you like to know more about the Catholic Church as it is today?

No matter how long you have been away and no matter the reason, we invite you to consider renewing your relationship with the Catholic Church. For information contact Kathleen at kathleen@divinesavior.com or 916-989-7400.

MANY THANKS TO OUR KNIGHTS

Our Knights of Columbus did very well with this year's Fourth of July Fireworks Booth. Our parish was very blessed to receive a check from the KC's in the amount of \$7,000. Given the many variables in finances because of the corona virus, this money provides a bit of a cushion as we continue to do our best to keep as many ministries as possible functioning and flourishing. Please check our parish website [Divine Savior.com](#) for updates & information about our ministries.

YOUNG ADULTS

Virtual Retreat for Young Adults

Join young adults from the Dioceses of Orange and Sacramento for our next ExtraOrdinary Times Virtual Young Adult retreat this Thursday, September 17th at 9pm on Facebook Live with Klarissa Chichioco, Coordinator of Youth and Young Adult Ministry at Queen of Apostles Parish in San Jose and co-founder of Echos of Worth. Get more info at



www.scd.org/ExtraOrdinary

PARENT RESOURCES

All families juggling their children/teens distance learning with work life and family life, please check out the parish website for great resources/ideas for parents/caregivers during the pandemic. [Parent resources](#). Let us support one another!

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Want to be part of a **SPECIAL OPS TEAM?**

This team, should they accept the challenge, will assist fellow parishioners by setting up chairs and preparing for Sunday morning Masses, funerals and special occasion Masses and putting away chairs and all items used for Mass after the event. **We need immediate help for Confirmation and First Communion Outdoor Masses on September 12, 18 and 19 at 7am.** These Special Teams will be filled first come first served, so call now for further information on how you can help. The first 50 volunteers will be entered into a raffle to win a free golf pencil! Reach out to (559)307-4216 or elaine@divinesavior.com before all spots are filled, and someone else wins the pencil! Call Elaine today!!

Honoring the Dignity of All God's People

Looking at Racism

Does the color of your skin influence the way people respond to you? Does our system work for everyone in the same way? Are white people socialized to believe that they have more power than people of color? Explore these questions by going to the Divine Savior website page

[Examining Racial Justice](#) and view Fr.

Bryan Massingale's video, or read his article about combatting racism and white privilege. You might also want to read Debby Irving's book, [Waking up White](#).

"That they may all be one." John 17:21

